

THE
HISTORY
OF
JACK
AND
THE GIANTS,
PART THE FIRST.



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LOS ANGELES

THE FIRST PART OF

THE

HISTORY

OF

Jack and the Giants



[CHAPTER. I.

*Of his Birth, Parentage, and Discourse
with a Country Vicar, when but seven
years old.*

IN the reign of King Arthur, near to
the Land's End of England, in the
county of Cornwall, lived a worthy
farmer, who had a son named Jack.
He was brisk, and of ready wit; so what-

TO THE READER
 ever he could not perform by force and strength, he completed by wit and policy : never was any person he heard of, that could worst him : nay, the very learned he has baffled by his cunning and sharp inventions. For instance, when he was no more than seven years of age, his father, the farmer sent him to the field, to look after his oxen which were then feeding in a pas-



ture. A country Vicar by chance coming a rots the field, called to Jack.

and asked him how many commandments there were, Jack told him nine, The Parson replied, there are ten. Nay, says Jack, Mr. Parson, you are out in that—there were ten; but you have broken one of them with your maid, Margery. The Parson replied, Thou art an arch wag, Jack.



Well, Mr. Parson quoth he, you have asked one question, and I have answered it, I beseech you to let me ask you another. Who made these oxen? The Parson replied, God, my dear child. Why now you are wrong again, says Jack, for God made them bulls; but my father and his man Jobson, made them oxen. These were the witty answers of Jack.

The parson seeing himself thus fooled, by this witty boy trudded away, leaving him in a laughter.

CHAP 2nd.

Of a Giant inhabiting the Mount of Cornwall, and what spoil he made in the Neighbourhood, as the Poet

IN those days the Mount of Cornwall was kept by a large and monstrous Giant, of eighteen feet high and about three yards in circumference, and of a fierce and grim countenance, the terror of the neighbouring towns and villages.



His habitation was in a cave in the

midst of the mount; never would he suffer any living creature to keep near him, His feeding was on other men's cattle, which often were his prey, for when he wanted food he would wade over to the main land, where he would well furnish himself with what he could find for the people, at his approach, would all forsake their habitations, then he would sieze their cows and oxen, of which he made nothing to carry over on his back half a dozen at once, and, as for their sheep and hogs, he would tie them round his waist like a bunch of candles; this he practised for many years, so that a very great part of the county of Cornwall was much impoverished by him,



CHAP 3rd:

Of Jaek's slaying this Monster, & from that time obtained the name of Juck the Giant Killer.

JACK having undertaken to destroy this venomous monster, he furnished himself with a horn, a shovel, and a pickaxe, and over the mountains he goes. in the beginning of a dark winters evening, fell to work, and before morning had digged a pit of twenty feet deep and almost as broad, covering it over



with long sticks, and straw, and then strewing a little mould over it it appeared like plain ground. Then put-

ting the horn to his mouth, he blew tantivy, tantivy ; which noise awaked the Giant, who came rearing towards Jack, crying out. You incorrigible villain, you shall pay dearly for disturbing me ; for I will broil you for my breakfast. These words were no sooner spoken, but he tumbled headlong into the pit, and his heavy fall made the foundation of the mountain shake.— O Mr. Giant quoth Jack, where are you now ? Faith you are in Lob's Pound, where I will plague your threatening words.—What do you think now of broiling me for your breakfast ? Will no other diet serve you but poor Jack ? Having thus tantalized the Giant for awhile, he struck him a terrible blow on his crown with his pole axe so that he tumbled down and with a groan expired. This done Jack threw dirt on him, and so buried him. Then searching the cave he found much treasure.

Now when the magistrates who employed John, heard that the job was over, they sent for him declaring that he should henceforth be called ' Jack the Giant Killer ' and in honour thereof, presented him with a sword and embroidered belt, upon which these words were written in letters of gold.

*Here's the valiant Cornish Man,
Who slew the Giant Cermoran.*

CHAP. IV.

Jack is surprised by a Giant while asleep and the danger he went through to gain his liberty;

THE news of Jack's victory was spread over the western parts so that another Giant called old Blunderbore, hearing of it vowed to be revenged on Jack, if ever it was his fortune to light on him. This giant kept an enchanted castle, situated in the midst of a lonesome wood.

About four months after, as Jack was walking by the borders of a wood in his journey towards Wales, he grew weary, and set himself down by the side of a fountain, when a deep sleep suddenly seized him. At this time the giant coming here for water, found him and by the lines upon his belt immediately knew him to be Jack, so without any words, he took him upon his shoulder to carry him to his enchanted castle. As he passed through a thicket the rustling of the boughs awakened Jack, who finding himself in the clutches of the giant, was much surprized though it was but the beginning of his terror; for entering the walls of

The castle, he found the floor covered with skulls and bones of the dead; when the giant told him his bones would enlarge the number of what he saw. He then brought him into a large parlour, where lay the blood and quarters of some lately slain; and in the next room were hearts and livers, when the giant to terrify him, said, that men's hearts were his favourite diet, which he said he most commonly eat with pepper and vinegar, adding, that he did not question but his heart would make him a curious breakfast. This said, he locks up poor Jack in an upper room, leaving him there while he went to fetch another giant, who lived in the same wood that he might partake of the pleasure he should have in the destruction of honest Jack. While he was gone dreadful shrieks and cries affrighted Jack, especially a voice which continually cried,

Do what you can to get away.

Or you'll become the giant's prey,

He's gone to fetch his brother who,

Will likewise kill and torture you.

This dreadful news so affrighted poor Jack; that he was ready to run distracted. Then going to the window he opened the cament, and beheld afar off the two giants coming together. So now quoth Jack to himself, my death, or deliverance is at hand. There were two strong cords in the room by him, at the end of which he made a noose, and as the giants were unlocking the iron gates he threw the ropes over each of the giants heads and then threw the other end across a beam, where he pulled with all his might till he had throttled them. And then fastening the ropes to a beam, he returned to the window, when he beheld the two giants both black in the face, and so sliding down the ropes, he came to the heads of the helpless giants, who could not defend themselves, and drawing his own sword, he slew them both, and so delivered himself from their intended cruelty. Then taking the bunch of keys, he entered the castle, whereupon strict search, he there found three ladies, tied up by the hair of their head, and almost starved to death, who told Jack, that their husbands had been slain by the giant, and they had been

kept many days without food, in order to force them to eat the flesh of their murdered husbands, which they could not do, if they were to be starved to death. Sweet ladies, said Jack, I have just now destroyed the monster, & his brutish brother by which means I have obtained your liberties. This said he presented them the keys of the castle, and proceeded on his journey to Wales.



CHAP. V.

Jack travels into Flintshire, and what happened there.

JACK having got a little money, he thought it prudent to make the best of his way by travelling hard, and at length losing his way, he was benighted, and could not get a place of entertainment until coming to a valley between two hills, he found a large house in a lonesome place, and by reason of his present necessity, he took courage to knock at the gate ; but to his amazement, there came forth a monstrous giant with two heads, yet he did not seem so fiery as the other two for he was a Welch giant, and all that he did, was by private and secret malice, under the false shew of friendship Jack telling his condition, he bid him welcome, shewing him into a room, with a bed where he might take his night's rest. Upon this Jack undressed himself, and as the giant was walking towards another apartment, Jack heard him say these words to himself.

*Tho' here you lodge with me this night
You shall not see the morning light,
My club shall dash your brains out quite*

Say you so, says Jack, is that one of your Welch tricks? I hope to be as cunning as you. Then getting out of bed, he found a thick billet and laid it in the bed in his stead, and hid himself in a dark corner of the room.

In the dead time of the night came the giant with his club, and struck several blows on the bed, where Jack had artfully laid the billet and then returned to his own room, supposing he had broken all his bones. In the morning early, Jack came to thank him for his lodging, O! said the giant how have you rested? Did you see any thing in the night. No, said Jack, but a rat gave me three or four slaps with his tail. Soon after the giant went to his breakfast on a great bowl of hasty pudding, giving Jack but a like quantity, who being loth to let him know he could not eat with him, got a leather bag putting it artfully under his coat, into which he put what he should have eat.

After breakfast, he told the giant he

would shew him a trick ; so taking a large knife, he ripped open the bag, which the giant thought to be his belly, and out came the hasty pudding, which the Welch giant seeing, cries out, Codsplut ! hur can do that hurself and taking up the knife he ript open his belly from top to bottom and out dropped his tripes and trullybubs, so that he immediately dropt down dead, — Thus Jack outwitted the Welch giant and proceeded on his journey to Wales.



King Arthur's Son goes to seek his fortune, meets Jack, and the wonderful thing performed by them whilst they were together.

KING Arthur's only son, desired his father to furnish him with a certain sum of money, that he might go and seek his fortune in the principality of Wales, where a beautiful lady lived, whom he had heard was possessed of seven evil spirits. His father the King, counsiled him against it, yet he would not be persuaded, so the favour was granted, which was one horse load with money, and another to ride on. Thus he went forth without any attendants and after many days travel, he came to a large market town, in Wales, where he beheld a vast crowd of people, gathered together. The King's son, asked the reason of it, was told they had arrested a corpse for many large sums of money, which the deceased owed before he died. The King's son replied, it is a pity people should be so cruel ; go bury the dead,

and let his creditors come to my lodgings, and their debts shall be discharged. Accordingly they came in such great numbers, that before night he had almost left himself pennyless. Now Jack the Giant Killer being there, and seeing the generosity of the King's son, desired to be his servant. It being agreed on, next morning they set forward when riding out of the town's end, an old woman cried out, he has owed me, twopence seven years, pray sir, pay me, as well as the rest. He put his hand in his pocket and gave it to her, it being the last he had left; then turning to Jack, he said, Take no thought of care, let me alone, and I warrant you, we shall never want. Now Jack, had a small spell in his pocket, the which served them all for refreshment, they having but one penny left between them.

They spent the forenoon in travel and discourse, until the sun grew low, when the King's son, said Jack, since we have got no money left where can we lodge to night? Jack replied, Mistrer we will do well enough, for I have an uncle who lives within two miles of this place he is a huge and monstrous giant, having three heads, and he will beat five hundred men in armour, and make them fly before him. Alas I said the King's son, what shall we do here? He will eat us up and one mouthful; nay, we

are scarce sufficient to fill up one hollow tooth, it is no matter for that, says Jack. I myself will go before and prepare the way for you; tarry here and wait my return. He waited and Jack rode full speed, and coming to the castle gate, he immediately began to knock with such force, that all the neighbouring hills resounded. The giant roared



with a voice like thunder. (Who is there? — None, but your poor cousin Jack. — And what news, said he, with my cousin Jack? He replied, Dear

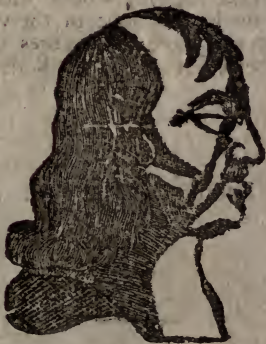
CHAP. VII.

*Jack saves his Master's life: and forces
the Spirit out of the Lady.*

JACK having overtook his master, they soon arrived at the lady's dwelling, who finding the King's son to be a suitor, prepared a banquet for him which being over, she wiped her mouth with a handkerchief, saying, You must shew me this to morrow morning or lose your head: and then put it in her bosom. The King's son went to bed right sorrowful, but Jack's cap of knowledge instructed him in it. In the middle of the night, she called upon her familiar to carry it to Lucifer,—Jack whipped on his coat of darkness, with his shoes of swiftness, and was there before her, but could not be seen by reason of his coat of darkness, which rendered him perfectly invisible to Lucifer himself. When she gave him the handkerchief, from whom Jack took it and brought it to his master, who producing it the next morning to the lady, saved his life,

This much surprized the lady, but he had a harder trial to undergo. The next night she salutes the King's son, telling him he must shew her next day, the lips she kissed last, or lose his head.

So I will replied he, if you kiss none but mine. It is neither here nor there for that, says she, if you do not, death is your portion. At midnight, she went again, and chid Lucifer, for letting the handkerchief go, but said she, *I shall be too hard for the King's son, for I will kiss thee. and he is to shew me the lips I kissed last, and he cannot shew me*



thine Jack standing up with his sword of sharpness cut off the devil's head, & brought it under his invisible coat; to his master, who laid it at the end of his bolster, and in the morning when she came up, he pulled it out by the horns,

shewing her the devil's lips, which she
kissed last. Thus answering her twice
the enchantment broke, and the evil
spirit left her, when she appeared, her
former self, both beautiful and virtu-
ous. They were married the next
morning, and soon after returned with
joy to the court of King Arthur, where
Jack for his good services, was made
one of the knights of the Round Table

Thus ends the First Part, which
leads to the Second, where you may
have a further account of the valiant
exploits and bold adventures of this
noble hero, Jack the Giant Killer.

End of the First Part.

J. Pitts, Printer,